

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 132

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to congratulate James Milam, Jr., upon receiving the White House Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly salute those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is James Milam, Jr., who is an esteemed resident of White House and the 2011 winner of the White House Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the son of Jim and Cindi Milam and the brother of Caroline Milam, James Milam, Jr., is a senior at White House High School, where he serves as a member of the Beta Club, the Math Club, the marching band, and the National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, during his time as a Cub Scout in the Boy Scouts of America, James began honoring veterans with his troop each year by placing flags at the gravestones of fallen soldiers at the Nashville National Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, a deeply patriotic young man, he first captured the nation's attention when a picture of him crawling from grave to grave, placing flags on each, graced the pages of *The Tennessean* in 2003; and

WHEREAS, now an Eagle Scout and a member of Order of the Arrow, James Milam has allowed neither his progress through the ranks of scouting nor the expressions of his patriotism to be hampered in any way by the fact that he was born with sacral agenesis, a condition which has required him to rely on the use of a wheelchair for mobility since the tender age of two; and

WHEREAS, a public-spirited citizen of the highest order, he continues to place flags on veterans' gravestones each year, plays Taps on his trumpet for Memorial Day services, participates in the Veterans Day parade, and honors veterans in any way asked of him; and

WHEREAS, for his Eagle project, James Milam helped build the White House Veterans Memorial with financial contributions from his friends and family and donations of labor from his friends in the construction industry; and

WHEREAS, James's Eagle project greatly contributed to the betterment of his community and reflected the true spirit of Volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, due to his involvement in helping build the Veterans Memorial, this past Memorial Day, James was bestowed the title of Honorary U.S. Marine, and he later received the Governor's Star Award; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, James is also a recipient of the Good Turn Award from the Middle Tennessee Council of Boy Scouts, and he was given the Southern Region Hero Award, which was presented to him in Kansas City, Kansas, by the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, James's displays of community service and ambition surely bode well for his future success as a student at William-Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, where he has been offered the Presidential Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, the greater White House community and the State of Tennessee are undoubtedly better places to live because of the life and service of James Milam; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like James Milam who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud James for his many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute leadership in White House; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor James Milam, Jr., upon receiving the White House

Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year Award, commend his outstanding record of volunteerism, leadership, and community spirit, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.